

21. (New) The device of claim 20, wherein the detector gathers information regarding spacing between at least two of the markings on the load bearing assembly and wherein the controller uses the spacing information to make the determination regarding the condition.


22. (New) The device of claim 21, wherein the controller accounts for a change in a load on the assembly and determines whether a change in spacing between selected ones of the markings corresponds to the change in the load.

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Applicant believes that additional fees in the amount of \$120.00 are required for one new independent claim and two new claims in excess of twenty. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 15-0750 in the name of Otis Elevator Company in the amount of \$120.00. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 15-0750 in the name of Otis Elevator Company for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

**CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS**



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David J. Gaskey  
Registration No. 37,139  
400 W. Maple, Suite 350  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 988-8360

Dated: July 12, 2002

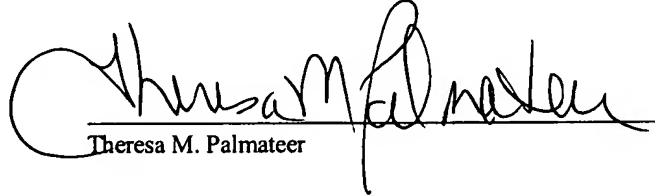


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OT-4935/4941

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Preliminary Amendment** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on July 12, 2002.

  
Theresa M. Palmateer

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